



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

**75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

April 12, 2010

Ramiro Villalvazo
Forest Supervisor
Eldorado National Forest
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) Freds Fire Reforestation, El Dorado County, CA (CEQ# 20100064)

Dear Mr. Villalvazo,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA reviewed the Draft EIS (DEIS) and provided comments to the Forest Service in our letter of October 26, 2009. We rated it Environmental Concerns - Insufficient Information (EC-2) due to concerns regarding the quality of aquatic toxicity data, future herbicide limitations, clarification of herbicide use and climate change. We appreciate the changes made to the comparison of alternatives table (page xvi), and the additional discussion of the impacts of climate change on this project. Based on the Forest Service response to EPA's comments, we have no objections to the proposed project.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the FEIS. We are available to discuss our comments. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Kelly, the lead reviewer for this project, at 415-972-3856 or kelly.thomasp@epa.gov, or me at (415) 972-3521.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen M. Goforth".

Kathleen M. Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office